October 9, 2014

Honors Humanities

**“The Gift”**

Our next text is an article called “The Gift” written in 2004 in *The New Yorker* magazine about a man named Zell Kravinksy (still alive). This article will be our entry into the world of philosophy, a world in which we will be swimming for much of the rest of the year. To start with, please do all of the following on a separate sheet of paper over the weekend:

1. Read and annotate (mark up, underline, write notes in the margins, etc.) p. 54-58 (ending at “give away things.”). There will be a short reading quiz on Tuesday.

2. Look up at least 5 words you don’t know well and write down the definitions.

3. On p. 57, Kravinksy says, “Everything else can change, but numbers remain the same; numbers are your best friends.” Write a good paraphrase of this sentence and then write a paragraph fleshing out what you think Kravinksy means here and whether you agree with him.

4. Later on p. 57, Kravinsky says, “The reasons for giving a little are the reasons for giving a lot and the reasons for giving a lot are the reasons for giving more.” Do with this quotation what you did with #3.

5. In what ways in Zell similar to Chris? Come up with a few.